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# Synodical Council District Report

# Synodical Structure

# Legal Entity Overview



## Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries



**LUTHER  
PREPARATORY  
SCHOOL**

*Stand-Alone  
Financial Statement Audit*



*Stand-Alone  
Financial Statement Audit*



**WISCONSIN  
LUTHERAN  
SEMINARY**



**WELS  
Historical  
Institute**



*Stand-Alone  
Financial Statement Audit*



*Stand-Alone  
Financial Statement Audit*



*Stand-Alone  
Financial Statement Audit*



# Synodical Council Membership



1 Synod President



12 District Lay Representatives

✓  
Voting Member



2 Pastors-at-Large

✓  
Voting Member



1 Teacher-at-Large

✓  
Voting Member



3 District Presidents

✓  
Voting Member



3 Area of Ministry Chairmen

✓  
Voting Member



2 First and Second Vice President



11 Advisors

# Synodical Council Responsibilities

*"Except for those responsibilities specifically conferred on the Conference of Presidents, **the Synodical Council shall be responsible for the possession, care, control, and management of the property and activities of the synod in pursuit of its mission, including but not limited to planning, programs, operations, and legal and fiscal matters.**"<sup>(1)</sup>*



**Administration  
Committee**



**Ministry  
Committee**



**Finance  
Committee**

(1) Excerpt from Article VII, Section 2 of the WELS Constitution and Bylaws.

# Financial Overview

# WELS Stand-Alone — Financial Summary

(amounts presented without restrictions and in millions, unless otherwise noted)

	FY24 (Actual – 9 Months)	FY23 (Actual – Full Year)	FY22 (Actual – Full Year)	
Support	Congregation Mission Offerings	\$17.8	\$23.4	\$23.1
	Unrestricted Special Fund Support	\$13.6	\$19.0	\$17.0
	Other Unrestricted Support	\$9.0	\$9.5	\$10.2
Operating & Special Fund Expenses	Home Missions	\$8.6	\$10.3	\$9.8
	World Missions	\$9.7	\$13.3	\$10.8
	Ministerial Education	\$7.7	\$9.4	\$9.7
	Cong. & District Ministry	\$6.8	\$8.5	\$8.5
	Ministry Support	\$4.0	\$6.3	\$5.5
	Surplus/(Deficit)	\$3.6	\$4.1	\$6.0

# WELS Stand-Alone — Reserve Summary

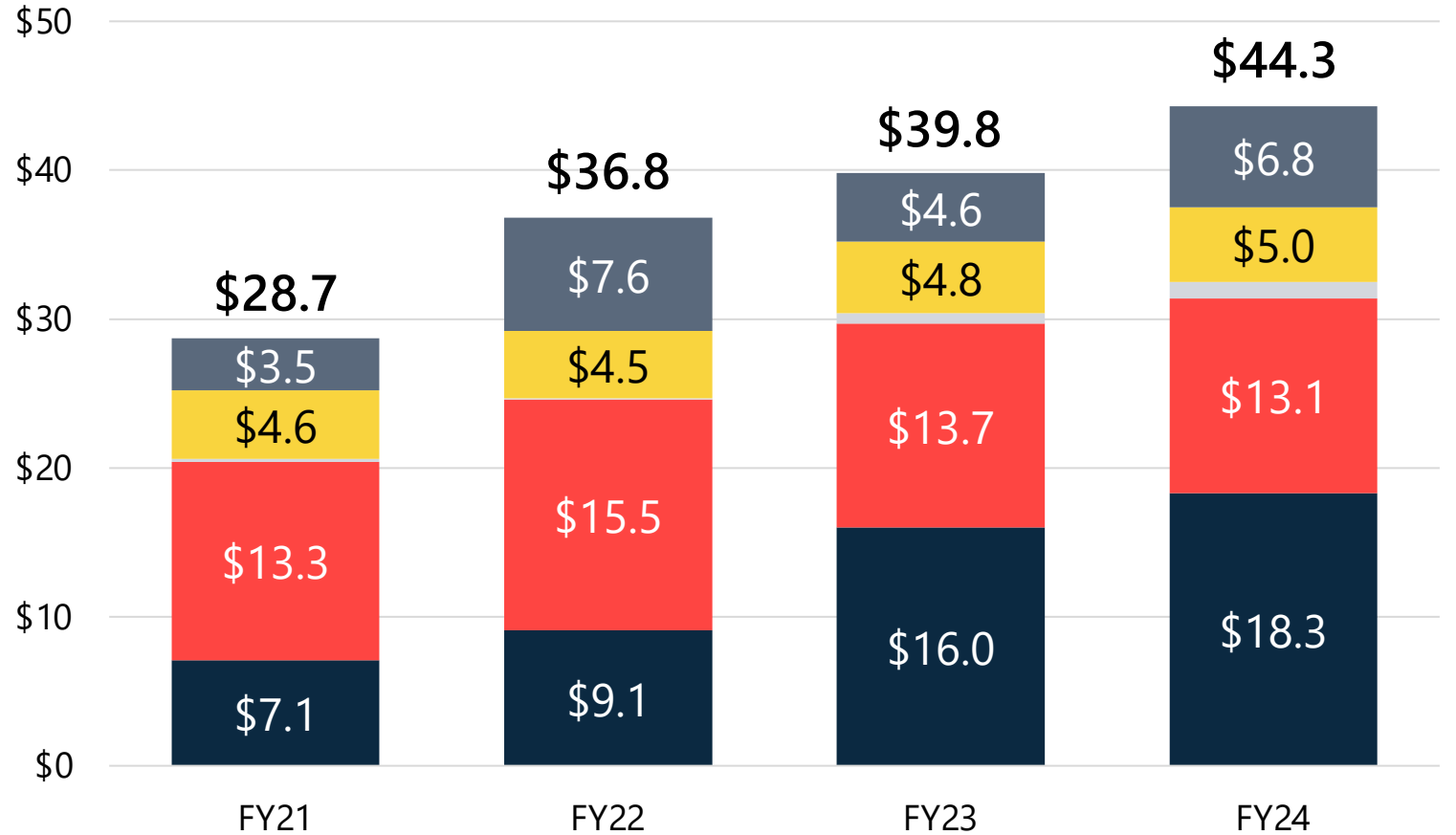
(amounts in millions, unless otherwise noted)

## Financial Stabilization Fund



(As of March 31, 2024)

## Available Special Funds



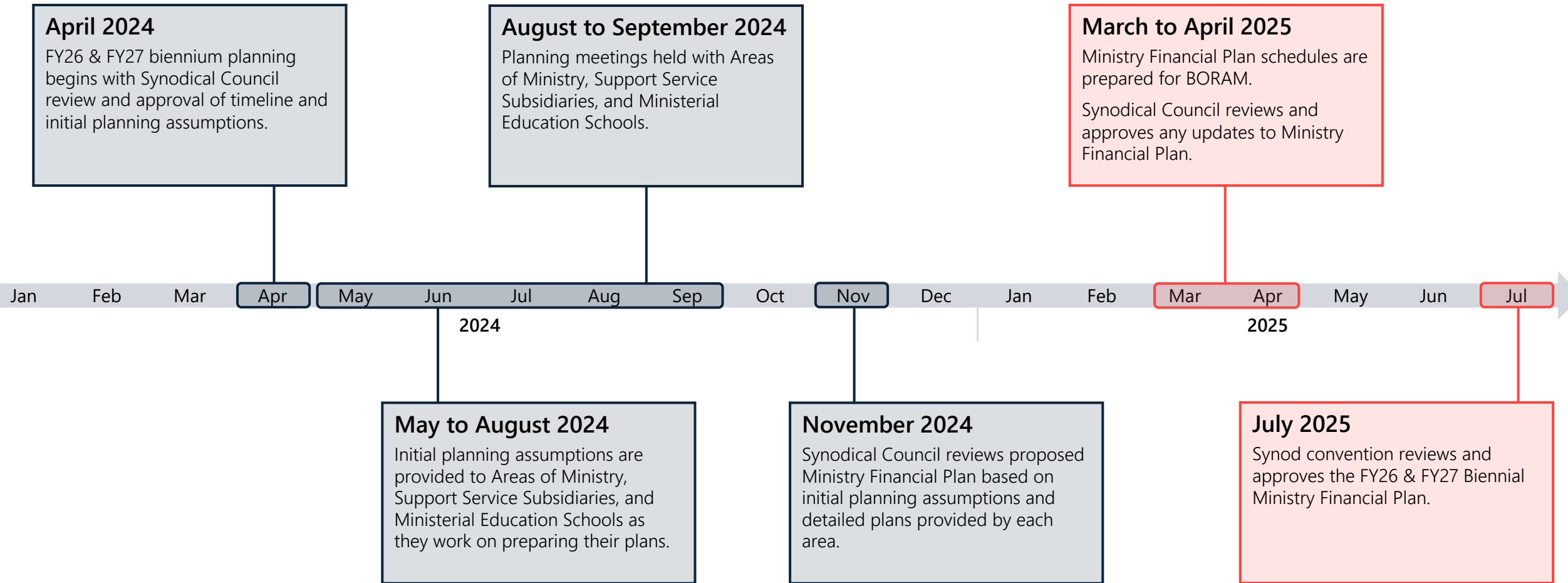
(As of March 31, 2024)

Home Missions
  World Missions
  Min. Ed.
  Cong. & District Ministry
  Ministry Support



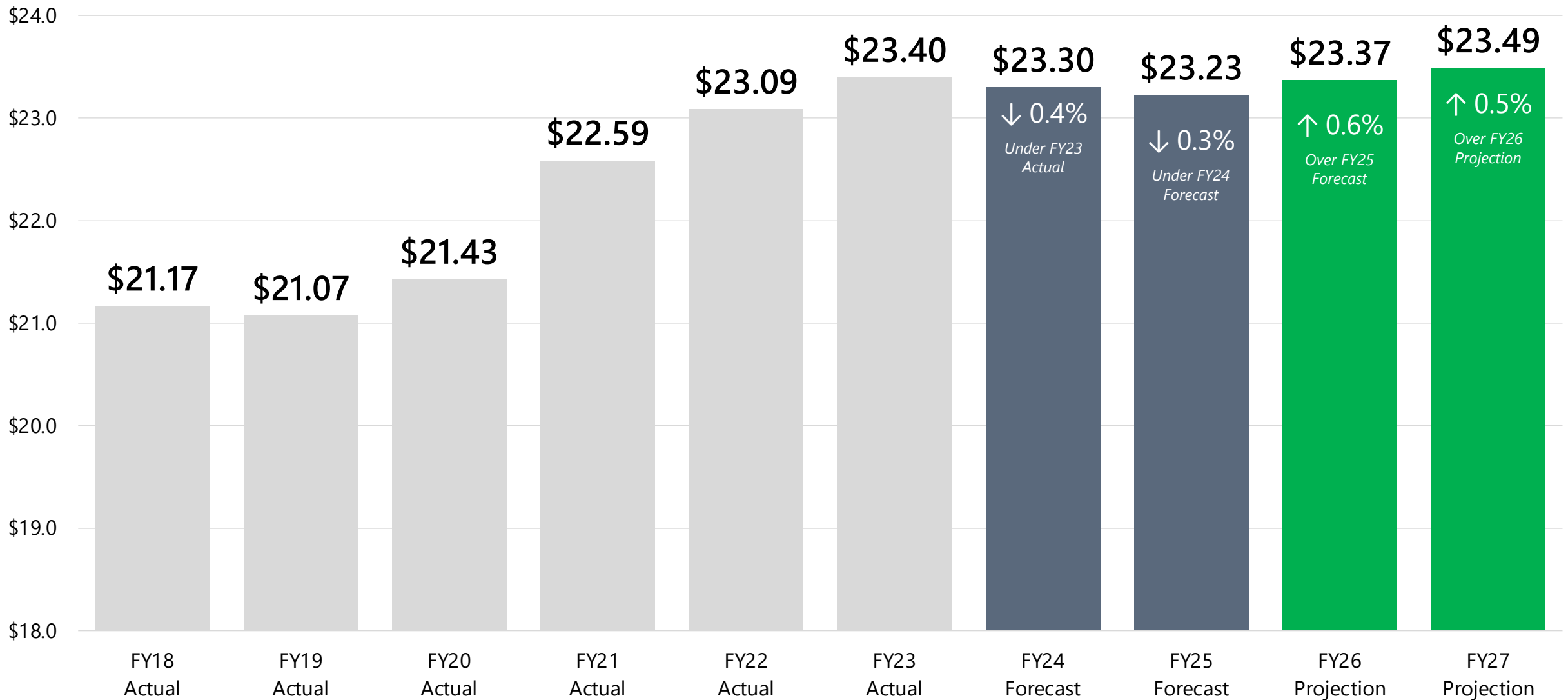
# FY26 & FY27 Initial Planning Assumptions

# Development of Ministry Financial Plan



# CMO Projections

(amounts in millions, unless otherwise noted)



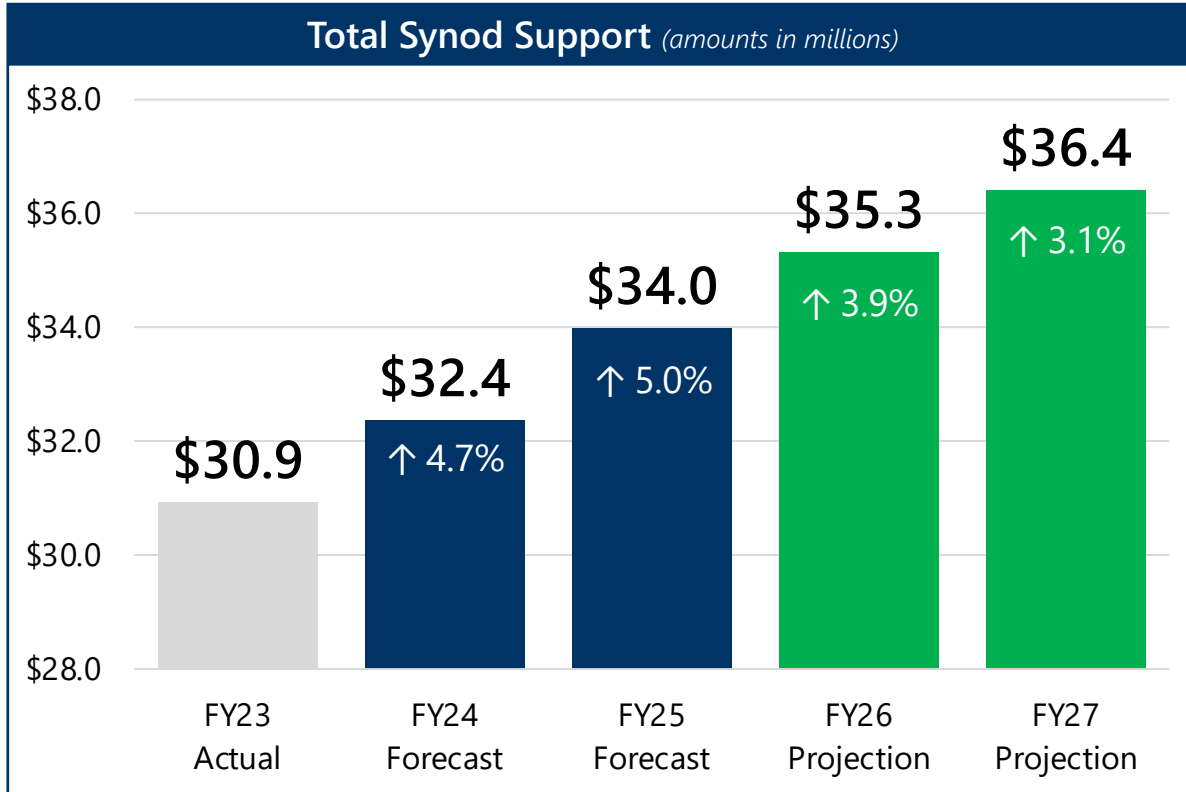
# FY26 & FY27 Initial Planning Assumptions

(amounts in millions, unless otherwise noted)

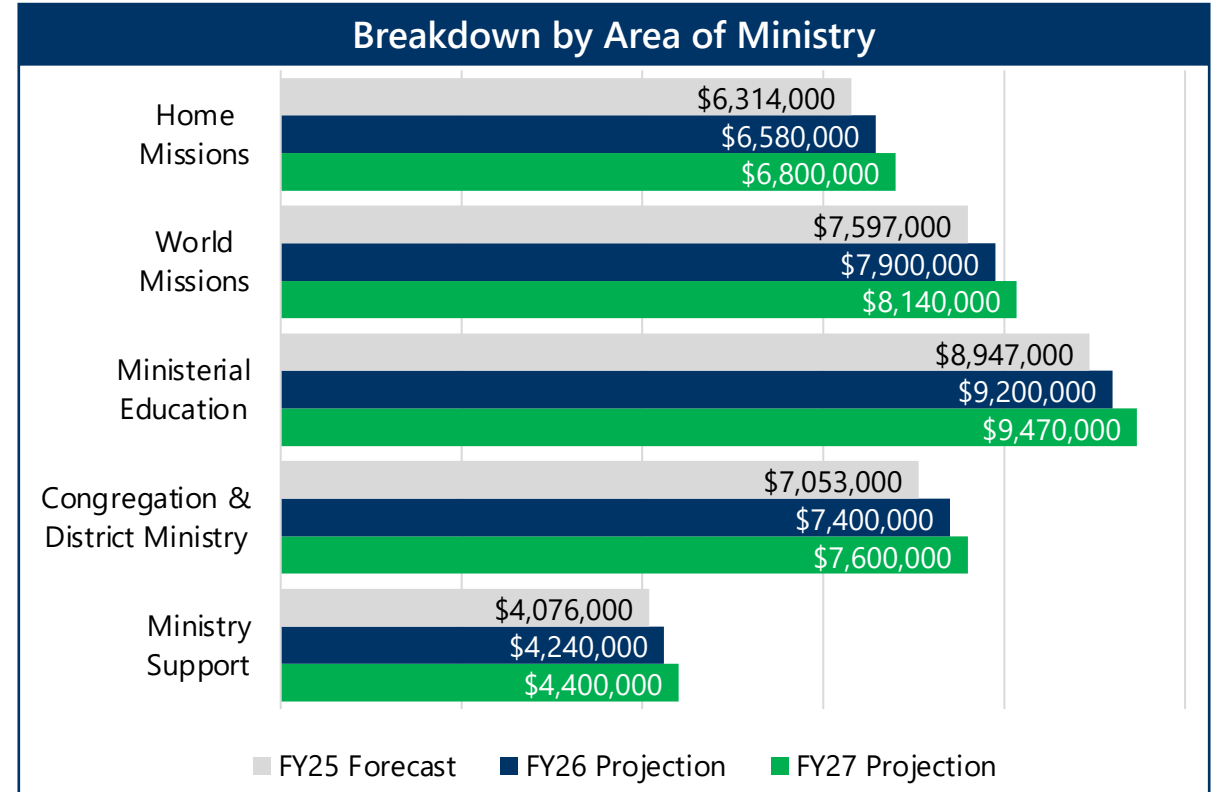
## Key Assumptions

Called Worker Wages	↑ 3.5%   ↑ 2.0% <small>FY26      FY27</small>	Healthcare Expenses	↑ 10.0%	Operational Expenses	↑ 3.0%
Non-Called Worker Wages	↑ 3.5%   ↑ 2.0% <small>FY26      FY27</small>	Retirement Plan Expenses	FLAT	School Subsidy	↑ 3.0%

## Total Synod Support (amounts in millions)

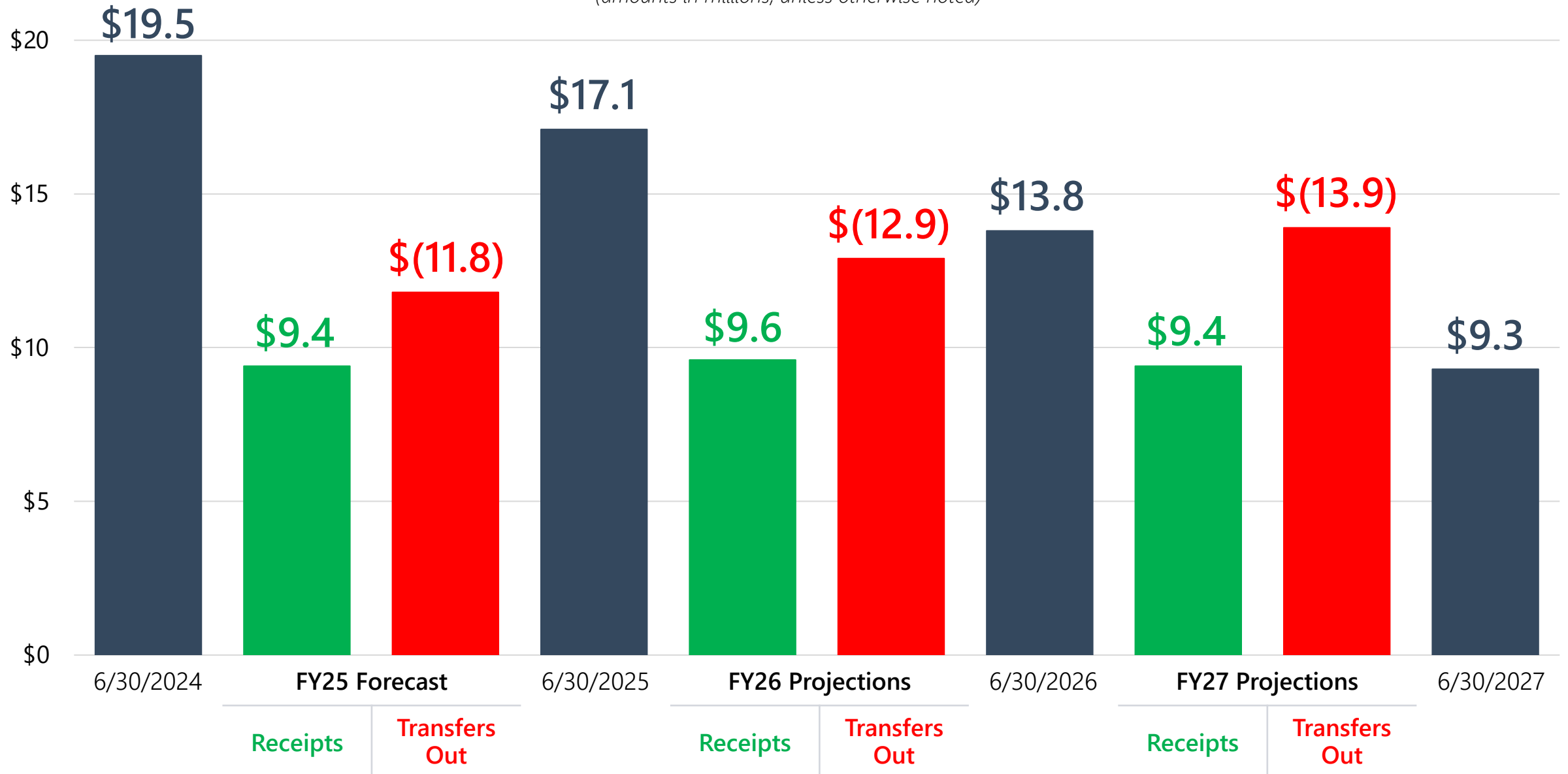


## Breakdown by Area of Ministry



# Financial Stabilization Fund Projections

(amounts in millions, unless otherwise noted)



# Christ Through Us

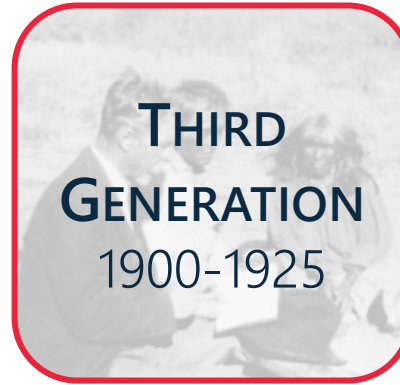
Long-Range Strategic Plan  
2025 - 2035

# Thanking Christ for Seven Generations of Grace

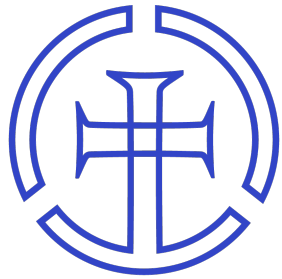
**CHRIST  
THROUGH US**



**FOR  
175 YEARS**



# Asking Him to Bless Our Future Efforts



**CHRIST**  
THROUGH US

LONG-RANGE STRATEGIC PLAN  
2025-2035





# Change in Overall Approach

## Previous Plans

- Consisted of institutional goals for areas of ministry
- Churches and members supported the plan with prayers and offerings



## *Christ Through Us*

- ***Also*** asks ***congregations and individuals*** to set goals
- Churches and members support the plan with prayers, offerings, ***and actions***

# A Strong Emphasis on Culture

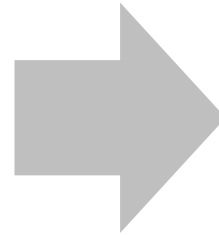


**CULTURE:** *The shared thought habits that frame the way a group of people work.*

# Change in Overall Approach

**FROM**

Thinking evangelism is best accomplished through church programs



**TO**

Thinking evangelism is best accomplished as I share my faith with those God has brought into my sphere of influence

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**CROSS** ANTICIPATE THE

**CROWN**



# Thank You

*"The earth is the LORD's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."*

Psalm 24:1